SHEALY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

SCIENTISTS & CONSULTANTS

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5 May 1995

Ms. Jean Whisnant Nevada Goldfields. Inc. P.O. Box 1510 McCormick, SC 29835

RE: Bioassessment of stream A, April 1995

Dear Ms. Whisnant:

A Rapid Bioassessment Protocol I was performed on Stream A on April 26, 1995. Three stations were included in this study, two of which have been routinely sampled as part of the monitoring program established for the NPDES permit in 1992. A third station, approximately 1 kilometer downstream from the discharge and 50 meters upstream of the Stream A and Hawe Creek confluence which was established in Mach 1995, was also sampled. The purpose of this present study was to determine the present condition of the macroinvertebrate community downstream of the weir 001 outfall which was found to be severely impacted during the last biannual assessment in March 1995.

The results of this study indicate that conditions remain good at the upstream control (station 1A) with the presence of a well balanced macroinvertebrate community and a typical coastal plain, first order stream fish fauna.

The second site included in this study (station 2A) located approximately 50 meters downstream of the weir 001 outfall which was severely impacted in March, yielding only seven specimens of five taxa showed some improvement during this study. The community, though still lacking many taxa normally present and structurally unbalanced, did contain relatively large numbers of blackfly larvae, mosquito larvae, beetle adults and larvae and some chironomid midge larvae. No fish were observed at this location during this study.

The third station (station 3A) included in this study was located approximately 50 meters upstream of the Hawe Creek confluence was also found to be impacted in the March study also appears to have recovered to some extent. The community was found to be dominated by large numbers of blackfly larvae and a few chironomid midge and beetle

larvae. No fish were observed in this portion of he stream at the time of the study, but the absence of many mosquito larvae may be indicative of fish movement upstream from Hawe Creek.

If you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance, please call.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Heyn